

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 EB-08 AID-05 AGRE-00 DOE-15
LAB-04 XMB-02 OPIC-03 OES-09 SOE-02 SIL-01 SNM-05
ICA-11 OIC-02 HA-05 HEW-04 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03
INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SS-15 EUR-12 /147 R

DRAFTED BY EA:AGEBER:RC
APPROVED BY EA:RBOAKLEY
EA:EHEGINBOTHAM
TREASURY:RANDERSON (INFO)
COMMERCE: MSMITH (INFO)
EB: HORMATS (INFO)
AID/ASIA:HPETREQUIN (INFO)
AGRICULTURE: FGEERKEN (INFO)
DOE: RICHORD (INFO)
LABOR: GHALM (INFO)
EXIMBANK:GHEIDRICH (INFO)
OPIC:RSMITH (INFO)
OES/APT/SA:JDADRIS (INFO)
S/NM:MFALCO (INFO)
TIMBS:REFRITTS (INFO)
EA/PHL:JMONJO (INFO)
-----098856 120511Z /64

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ASEAN

SUBJECT: US-ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING
REF: STATE 164713

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE MET YESTERDAY WITH ASEAN WASHINGTON COMMITTEE (AWC), TO REVIEW PREPARATIONS FOR US-ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING. DISCUSSION CENTERED ON DRAFT AGENDA AS CONTAINED IN REFTEL.

2. AMBASSADOR ZAIN SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF AWC STATED AWC HAS NO INSTRUCTIONS. HE WISHED TO EXPLORE WHAT WE HAD IN MIND ON THE AGENDA ITEM 5 "EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ASEAN AND THE US, INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF THE REFUGEE PROBLEM." WE EXPLAINED THAT WE WERE INFORMED THAT ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS AT THEIR RECENT MEETING REQUESTED THAT REFUGEE PROBLEM BE PLACED ON AGENDA. WE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE BEST TO INCLUDE IT UNDER A GENERAL HEADING WHICH WOULD ALLOW ASEAN MINISTERS TO MAKE PRESENTATION AND RAISE ANY ISSUES, INCLUDING THE REFUGEE PROBLEM, ON WHICH THEY WISH TO HAVE A GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH SECRETARY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY INDICATION OF WHAT ASEAN'S WISHES ARE.

3. WE ALSO INDICATED THAT IN ADDITION TO ITEM 5, WE EXPECT ASEAN TO TAKE LEAD ON ITEM 6, "EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COMMODITY POLICY ISSUES," ITEM 7, "EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON TRADE ISSUES" AND ON 10.A "TAX DEFERRAL."

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4. ZAIN MADE THREE FURTHER REQUESTS ALL BASED ON RECOGNITION THAT ASEAN IS SENDING THEIR MOST SENIOR MINISTERS TO THE WASHINGTON MEETING. AWC WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CONGRESSIONAL MEETINGS HOSTED BY FULL COMMITTEE RATHER THAN SUB-COMMITTEE. THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SECRETARY VANCE IN THE CHAIR FOR LONGER THAN INDICATED IN THE DRAFT AGENDA AND THEY DEFINITELY WISH TO HAVE SENIOR CABINET OFFICERS IN THE CHAIR THROUGHOUT THE MEETING. THEY ALSO INDICATED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT MEETING WITH PRESIDENT APPEARS TO BE SOCIAL RATHER THAN BUSINESS MEETING AS INITIALLY INDICATED. IF IT CAN NOT BE BOTH AWC WOULD PREFER BUSINESS MEETING ONLY BETWEEN PRESIDENT AND TWO RANKING MINISTERS OF EACH DELEGATION.

5. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE PROMISED WHAT HE CAN DO ON EACH OF THESE REQUESTS. IN TURN HE TOLD AWC THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO PIN DOWN AVAILABILITY OF MINISTERS ON AFTERNOON OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2. (INVITATIONS TO US CHAMBER RECEPTION WHICH WILL BE CO-HOSTED BY SECRETARY KREPS ARE BEING ISSUED NOW). WE ALSO WANT EARLIEST INDICATION FROM ASEAN ON THEIR DESIRE RE PRESS AND PUBLICITY, SPECIFICALLY WHETHER ASEAN WISHES OUR

ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING MEDIA EVENTS (SUCH AS BACK-GROUNDER FOR LEADING NEWSPAPERS, MEET THE PRESS, OR OTHER TV COVERAGE, ETC.) IN ADDITION TO NATIONAL PRESS CLUB LUNCHEON AND JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE. RE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB LUNCHEON, AWC WAS INFORMED THAT NATIONAL PRESS CLUB INVITES TWO SENIOR MINISTERS FROM EACH DELEGATION AND ASEAN AMBASSADORS TO BE GUESTS OF HONOR. OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS AND EMBASSY OFFICERS ARE INVITED TO RECEPTION AND WELCOME TO ATTEND LUNCHEON AS PAYING GUESTS (\$7.50). NATIONAL PRESS CLUB WOULD LIKE TO KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SPOKESMEN FOR ASEAN AT THE LUNCHEON AND NAMES OF TWO RANKING DELEGATES OF ASEAN DELEGATIONS. THEY WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW BEFORE EVENT WHICH OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS WILL WISH TO ATTEND. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACTION: WE HOPE EMBASSY MANILA WILL SOON OBTAIN NAMES OF ASEAN SPOKESMEN AT PRESS CLUB LUNCHEON. ASEAN AMBASSADORS CONFIRMED OR INFORMED US YESTERDAY THAT FOLLOWING WILL BE THEIR RANKING DELEGATES: PHILIPPINES: ROMULO AND VIRATA; INDONESIA: WIDJOJO AND RADIUS PRAWIRO;

SINGAPORE: RAJARATNAM AND GOH CHOK TONG; THAILAND: UPPADIT AND UNNAMED ECONOMIC MINISTER; MALAYSIANS DO NOT EXPECT NEW CABINET BEFORE TWO WEEKS. EMBASSIES ARE REQUESTED TO KEEP US ABREST OF DEVELOPMENTS ON RANKING DELEGATES AND TO LET US KNOW AS SOON AS THEY CAN WHICH OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS MAY WISH TO ATTEND PRESS CLUB LUNCHEON.

6. IN CONCLUSION, HOLBROOKE URGED AWC TO CONVEY TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS THAT WE LOOK UPON WASHINGTON MEETING AS AN IMPORTANT EVENT IN A LONG-TERM, EVOLVING PROCESS OF INCREASINGLY CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN ASEAN AND US AND THAT WE HOPE THAT ASEAN WILL SHARE THIS VIEW WITH US.

CHRISTOPHER

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